UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

National General Assurance Company

v.

Civil No. 08-cv-00440-JL

Freightliner of New Hampshire, Inc.

ORDER AFTER PRELIMINARY PRETRIAL CONFERENCE

The Preliminary Pretrial Conference was held in chambers on April 6, 2009.

The Discovery Plan (document no. 36) is approved as submitted, with the following changes:

- "DiBenedetto" (empty chair defense)
 disclosure deadline -- October 1, 2009
- Summary judgment motions -- November 15, 2009
- Trial -- April, 2010

Based on the discussions between the court and counsel/parties at the conference, the following are **stricken** without prejudice to being reinstated on request if warranted by the evidence:

• the plaintiff's claim for "res ipsa loquitur" (Count 8).

The theory, however, is not foreclosed to the plaintiff, if supported by the evidence, as part of Count 1 (negligence).

• the following affirmative defenses: Count 1 (subject matter jurisdiction), Count 4 (SOL), Count 11 (waiver/estoppel/laches).

In their dispositive motions, the parties shall notify the court if they have agreed as to choice of law.

SO ORDERED.

Joseph N. Laplante

United States District Judge

Dated: April 6, 2009

cc: Kimberly J.H. Memmesheimer, Esq.

John P. Sherman, Esq. Susan H. Green, Esq. Dona Feeney, Esq.